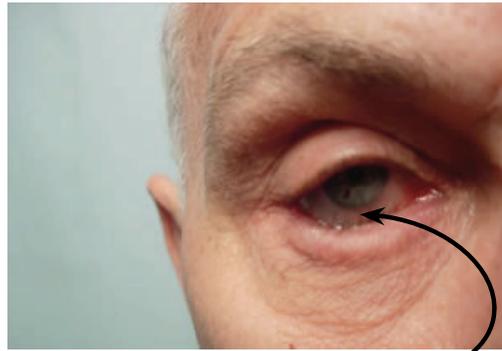


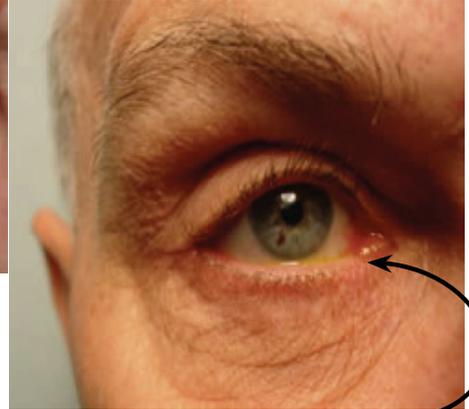


# Eyelid Malpositions

491 30th Street,  
Suite 201  
Oakland, CA  
94609  
Ph: (510) 836-2122  
Fax: (510) 836-3773



Note Lower Lid inturning



After Entropion Repair

## Entropion:

The eyelids work together to protect and lubricate the surface of the eye. Sometimes, problems develop with the physical relationship between eye and lids that can cause diminished vision, eye irritation and a sense of tiredness. A variety of disorders can change the position of the eyelids. These malpositions can impair vision because a drooping eyelid blocks a person's view of the world around them. Sometimes, corneal exposure can result if the eyelids aren't in proper position, and this can lead to blurriness and persistent eye irritation.

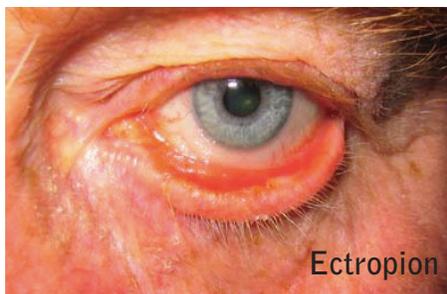
The upper eyelid is prone to four basic malpositions: drooping (called upper lid ptosis), retraction of the upper lid (making the eye appear to bulge), in-turning of the eyelid and lash line (entropion) and out-turning of the eyelid (ectropion).

Eyelid ptosis can be caused by weakness in the nerve that controls the muscle of the upper eyelid, by stretching of the muscle that lifts the eyelid or weakness of the muscle itself. There is a congenital kind of ptosis in which there is poor development of the upper eyelid muscle, which can cause the lid to droop. Surgery to correct ptosis involves shortening and reinserting the eyelid muscle into the eyelid. If the ptosis is severe, the muscles of the eyebrow may be attached to the eyelid to help lift up the eyelid into its normal position.

Eyelid retraction is caused when the muscle is overactive or when inflammation and scarring cause it to tighten and pull open the eye more than normal. This may cause irritation of the ocular surface because of drying and can give someone with eyelid retraction a startled appearance. Often, it is associated with thyroid disease.

Entropion, or turning in of the eyelids, may cause the eyelashes to rub against the surface of the eye. This feels uncomfortable and often leads to tearing and redness of the eyes. If not treated, it can cause infection and scarring.

Sometimes with aging, the eyelids lose their elasticity and become lax. The lower lids may sag and even turn outwards. In this position, the lids don't protect the ocular surface very well and can cause eye irritation and discomfort.



Each of these conditions can be corrected with surgery, which is designed to tighten the lids and reposition them to their normal height. Surgeons at East Bay Eye Specialists would be happy to discuss treatment options with you and answer any questions you might have about these problems which affect the delicate structure around the eye.